

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### PORT OPPORTUNITY, REINVESTMENT AND TRAINING ACT

**HON. JANICE HAHN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 27, 2012

Ms. HAHN. Mr. Speaker, one of the unfortunate, oft-neglected effects of the financial crisis has been chronically high teen unemployment. This past summer, the unemployment rate for teenagers in California reached an astonishing 35 percent, which is well above the high rate for all Californians. For many teens, summer is a time to find their first jobs and learn their first lessons about making and managing money. Those experiences, however, are becoming less common as high school students find it harder to obtain summer employment. As study after study has shown, high rates of unemployment and stagnant wages have been linked with higher crime rates. Alleviating youth unemployment, therefore, isn't just about giving kids something to do over the summer, it's about giving them skills they can use the rest of their lives.

That is why I have introduced the "Port Opportunity, Reinvestment and Training (PORT) Act." This legislation authorizes the creation of a grant program at ports throughout the country to hire eligible high school students over the summer. This is a win-win for the American economy. Our nation's ports have long been engines of economic growth, and so there is no better place for students to learn the skills they need to compete in today's workforce.

These grants are an investment in the communities that need them most. Not only will these grants put money in the pockets of high school students facing unprecedented levels of unemployment, but they will rejuvenate regions that have been devastated by the financial crisis.

I urge my colleagues to support this crucial investment in our students, our communities, and our economy.

### HONORING ANDREW WILSON

**HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 27, 2012

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, we owe much of our freedom to those who offer their life's work in service to the tenets of this mighty country. With unequalled resolve, the men and women of the United States Armed Forces protect freedom at home while bringing the light of freedom into the world's darkest places.

On October 19, 2011, one of our brave defenders of the contract of democracy was injured when an Improvised Explosive Device exploded while he was on patrol in Afghanistan. He celebrated his 24th birthday at Walter

Reed Medical Center awaiting his second prosthetic leg. After 11 surgeries, Wilson remains determined as his toil is for a higher purpose. He will stand and greet his fellow heroes as they return from the Global War on Terror in April.

With boldness, the brave men and women serving in our Armed Forces respond to recognizable evil with the might of America's military, and today freedom continues to march onward. There is a debt of gratitude to Specialist Wilson that no words can repay. I ask my colleagues to join with me in honoring Specialist Andrew Wilson as he refuses to accept defeat and lives brightly the Warrior Ethos. I rise to honor his sacrifice and join him in prayer for those in battle who have not yet made it home.

### HONORING LEON HELMS

**HON. TIM GRIFFIN**

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 27, 2012

Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize the life and work of one of my constituents, Mr. Leon Helms, who will retire at the end of this month.

Leon received his B.A. degree from Henderson State University. From 1954 to 1956, he served as a First Lieutenant in the U.S. Army at installations at Nuremburg and Munich in Germany, and Fort Benning, Georgia.

Since that time, Leon has enjoyed a distinguished banking career, spanning 55 years. Leon, a graduate of the National Trust School and the Louisiana State University School of Banking of the South, began his career in the area of personal trust at Commercial National Bank. After this, he spent a number of years at First Commercial Bank where he was manager of the bank and the personal trust administration department.

For the past 11 years, Leon has served as a senior advisor at Delta Trust. His service there has proved instrumental to the growth and success of the trust department.

Leon is also a distinguished member of Arkansas's legal profession. He received his J.D. from the School of Law at University of Arkansas at Little Rock, and he is a member of the Arkansas State Bar Association as well as the Pulaski County Bar Association. He was the 2005–2006 President of the Pulaski County Bar Association.

Leon's dedication to his community is demonstrated through his volunteer activity with a number of organizations. He also serves on the boards for the American Lung Association of Arkansas, the Arkansas Lighthouse for the Blind, and the Central Arkansas Estate Council. He also serves on the advisory board of the Jones Eye Institute.

Leon and his wife, Ardith, reside in Little Rock, Arkansas, which is in my Congressional district. It is here that they will enjoy Leon's retirement.

It is an honor to represent Leon, and I congratulate him on his long and distinguished career, on his retirement, and for his dedication to his community and his nation.

### TRIBUTE TO DONALD MALCOLM WILSON

**HON. RUSH D. HOLT**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 27, 2012

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to mark the passing of Donald Malcolm Wilson who spent a lifetime in communications during some of the most historic occasions of the twentieth century. Until his death on November 29, 2011, he was the last surviving member of the Executive Committee of the National Security Council (EXCOMM), the ad hoc group formed by President John F. Kennedy, which informed U.S. policy during the most dangerous days of the Cold War—the Cuban Missile Crisis of October 1962. At the time, Don was deputy director of the U.S. Information Agency, second only to the legendary Edward R. Murrow, who was the director.

Because Mr. Murrow was ill at the time, Mr. Wilson states in his book, *The First 78 Years*, he was asked to join EXCOMM, whose other 17 members included Vice President Lyndon Johnson, Secretary of Defense Robert McNamara, Secretary of State Dean Rusk, Under Secretary of State George Ball, and Gen. Maxwell Taylor, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Then 37 years of age, Mr. Wilson was one of the youngest people in the room. It was his job to get the American side of the story out to the world.

The Crisis grew from the U.S. discovery that the Soviets had secretly built missile bases in Cuba. Evidence for the bases was collected photographically by reconnaissance flights, which some members of the administration did not want to release because they would reveal the scope of U.S. secret aerial activity. However, Mr. Wilson argued persuasively that release of the photos would convince skeptical allies that the bases actually existed. The photos were released as Soviet ships headed toward Cuba to deliver ballistic missiles to the formerly secret locations.

EXCOMM members were divided on two options: an invasion of Cuba or a U.S. Navy blockade of the island to prevent the Soviets from delivering the weapons. President Kennedy decided on the blockade. On Thursday, October 24, 1962, described by Robert Kennedy as the day in his life that was, "The most trying, the most difficult, and the most filled with tension," Soviet-bloc ships approached the U.S. Navy ships surrounding the island. Much to the relief of the nation and the world, on orders from Premier Nikita Khrushchev, Soviet ships reversed course and the danger of what would surely have been a nuclear war was averted.

Dean Rusk famously remarked of that incident that, "We're eyeball to eyeball, and I think the other fellow just blinked."

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